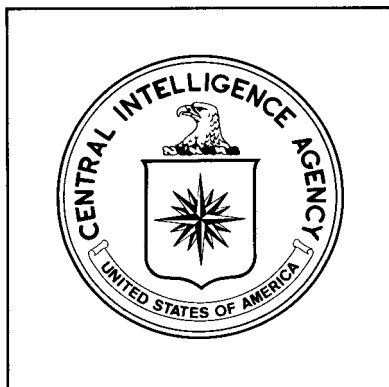


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STAFF NOTES:

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Soviet Union Eastern Europe

State Department review completed

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SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

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Polish Administrative Reorganization

Warsaw is reportedly planning to order a sweeping reorganization of the country's regional administrative structure before the seventh party congress convenes in December.

The US embassy in Warsaw last week reported that its sources say that the present 17 provinces and 5 cities with province status will be replaced by 50 smaller territorial subdivisions.

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Whatever Moscow's role the Polish leadership has its own compelling reasons for such a reorganization. Gierek has evidently decided that a major restructuring is the only way the central leadership can break the power of close-knit local party and government authorities, whose arbitrary actions and foot-dragging have allegedly hindered implementation of the regime's programs.

Since coming to power in 1970, Gierek has often done battle with recalcitrant, and frequently corrupt, local leaders. Faced with both Western inflation and higher Soviet oil prices, Gierek needs to create a more responsive and qualified leadership team at the country's lower administrative levels, if he is to be successful in advancing Poland's economic development.

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Romania Interested in Western Arms

Bucharest, which would like to diversify its sources of arms, is showing an interest in acquiring weapons in the West, including the US.

The Romanian chief of staff, Colonel General Coman, raised the possibility of obtaining American military equipment, at an unspecified date, in a recent conversation with the US ambassador in Bucharest. Coman visited military installations in the US last month.

Coman did not identify the equipment he has in mind, but the embassy notes that he was greatly impressed with a demonstration of DRAGON anti-tank guided missiles. Although Coman candidly admitted that the question of Romanian arms purchases from the US is delicate, he said that the Defense Ministry is "very carefully" considering it. He stressed that Romania wants to be able to defend its territory-- "every inch of it."

Coman's words dovetail with Bucharest's long-known goal of reducing its dependence on Moscow for arms. A fighter trainer, the Yurom, is already being jointly produced by Romania and Yugoslavia, and

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Soviet-Japanese Agreement on Fishing

The USSR and Japan have reached an agreement that will permit the Japanese to continue salmon fishing within 200 miles of the Soviet coast. Tokyo had feared that the Soviets would take a harder stand in view of the growing trend toward restricting foreign fishing. After nearly a month of negotiations, however, Moscow agreed to a Japanese catch close to those of previous years.

The Soviet Union and Japan, the two largest fishing nations in the world, have cooperated on fishing for some time, taking similar positions in the Law of the Sea Conference. Both fish heavily within 200 miles of each other's coasts and have mutual interests in conserving local species.

Not all Soviet and Japanese fishing differences have been resolved. Earlier this year, Japanese fishermen were incensed when their nets were damaged by Soviet trawlers operating in Japanese waters. The incidents became for a while an emotionally charged political issue, but they had only a minor economic impact on the fishing industry.

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CHRONOLOGY

April 15

Only Brezhnev and Kulakov are missing as CPSU secretaries confer with representatives of Soviet cultural organizations on plans for marking V-E Day this year. [REDACTED]

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Iraqi strong man Saddam Husayn Tikriti concludes a two-day, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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Three US astronauts arrive in the USSR for their last joint training with Soviet cosmonauts before the space venture set for July 15. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav Premier Bijedic concludes a one-week, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

Bulgarian Deputy Premier Iliev is relieved of that post because of his assignment to "other work." [REDACTED]

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April 16

CPSU Central Committee meets. Trade union chief Shelepin is removed from the Politburo; the 25th party Congress is set for February 24, 1976; Brezhnev reports on plans for the Congress, and Foreign Minister Gromyko reports on foreign policy. A resolution issued by the Central Committee reviews foreign policy developments in confident terms. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Czechoslovak party chief Husak makes an especially harsh, public attack on his predecessor Alexander Dubcek, asserting that he "can pack his bags tomorrow and move to any bourgeois state." [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic concludes a four-day, official visit to Syria. [REDACTED]

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April 17

UN Security Council votes 13 (US, USSR)-0-2 (China, Iraq) to extend the mandate of the peacekeeping force in the Sinai for another three months. [REDACTED]

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Czechoslovak Interior Minister Obzina and trade union chief Hoffmann follow up party leader Husak's warnings to Alexander Dubcek and his supporters. [REDACTED]

25X1

Defense Minister Grechko addresses a conference of military commanders and historians in Moscow. [REDACTED]

25X1

UK Foreign Secretary Callaghan officially invites Foreign Minister Gromyko to visit London for bilateral talks. [REDACTED]

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East-West force reductions negotiations adjourn in Vienna for a spring recess. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

USSR and Japan sign their fisheries agreement for 1975 in Tokyo after 44 days of negotiations. [REDACTED]

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Romanian President Ceausescu concludes his state visit to Jordan and begins one to Tunisia. [REDACTED]

25X1

Deputy Premier Mazurov confers with Pakistani emissary Bacha, a special assistant to Prime Minister Bhutto. [REDACTED]

25X1

April 18

Czechoslovak party secretary Bilak concludes a three-day, official visit to Syria. [REDACTED]

25X1

Polish party chief Gierek confers with visiting Soviet Culture Minister Demichev. [REDACTED]

25X1

Deputy foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact member-states plus Mongolia conclude a two-day conference at Bratislava. [REDACTED]

25X1

Tanzanian President Nyerere begins a three-day, state visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

A high-level Soviet military delegation arrives in Libya. [REDACTED]

25X1

Police in Kiev arrest Mikola Rudenko, a member of the Soviet chapter of Amnesty International; Andrey Tverdokhlebov, head of the chapter, is arrested in Moscow, and the homes of two other members are searched by Soviet police. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

USSR announces that it will send "material aid of a humanitarian nature" to Cambodia "in the near future." [REDACTED]

25X1

April 19

Metropolitan Museum of Art opens a three-month display of Scythian art loaned by the USSR. [REDACTED]

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USSR launches India's first satellite into space. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian President Ceausescu concludes an extended tour of East Asia and the Middle East. [REDACTED]

25X1

Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi begins a four-day, official visit to the USSR; at a dinner in Moscow, he praises Brezhnev as the "closest friend" of both Egypt and the Arab world in general. [REDACTED]

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Top three Soviet leaders send a telegram of congratulations to Cambodian leaders Sihanouk, Penn Nouth, and Khieu Samphan on the "liberation" of Phnom Penh; message adds the claim that the USSR "always supported the Cambodian patriots." [REDACTED]

25X1

USSR announces a de facto closure of 11 areas in the Pacific for 22 days beginning April 24 for the purpose of launching "weather rockets." [REDACTED]

25X1

Libyan Prime Minister Jallud concludes an official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

April 20

Jews of the Moscow area are not harassed at their picnic to mark Israeli Independence Day; last year's picnic was broken up by police. [REDACTED]

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Foreign Minister Gromyko confers for four hours with Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi. [REDACTED]

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April 21

Brezhnev confers with Foreign Minister Fahmi. [REDACTED]

25X1

Deputy Defense Minister Kulikov leaves Moscow for an official visit to Syria.

[REDACTED]

Tanzanian President Nyerere begins a three-day, state visit to Romania.

[REDACTED]

Finance Minister Garbuzov begins a four-day visit to Iran. [REDACTED]

25X1

GDR Foreign Minister Fischer begins an official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

Danish Foreign Minister Andersen begins a three-day, official visit to Czechoslovakia. [REDACTED]

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April 22

Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi concludes his visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

Party Secretary Suslov speaks at the Kremlin celebration of the 105th anniversary of Lenin's birth; Brezhnev, Kosygin, Podgorny and other top party leaders attend. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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FUTURE EVENTS

April 23 Polish Premier Jaroszewicz to begin a four-day, official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

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Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam to begin an official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

Romanian party secretary Stefan to begin a visit to the UK. [REDACTED]

25X1

French Socialist leader Mitterrand to begin his oft-postponed, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

April 28 Romanian Foreign Minister Macovescu to commence a three-day, official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

April 29 Danish Foreign Minister Andersen to commence a two-day, official visit to Hungary. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav Premier Bijedic to make an official visit to China. [REDACTED]

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late April - Committee drafting documents for the
early May proposed European Communist party conference expected to convene in East Berlin for its third meeting. [REDACTED]

May 5 Brezhnev is likely to be in Prague for the 30th anniversary of the end of Nazi control of the city. [REDACTED]

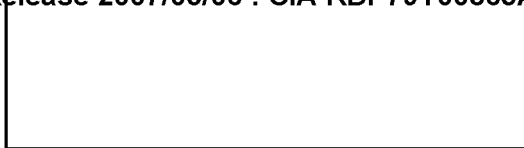
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May 8 Austrian Chancellor Kreisky to begin a three-day, official visit to [REDACTED]

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Romania followed by a shorter one to Bulgaria. 

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May 9


USSR and its allies to hold their principal observances of the 30th anniversary of final victory over Nazi Germany. 

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May 12

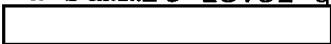


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Yugoslav-US economic council to convene in Dubrovnik. 


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May 14


Warsaw Pact member-states to observe the 20th anniversary of the formation of their organization, probably via a summit-level get-together at Warsaw. 

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mid-May

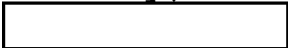
East-West force reductions negotiations to resume in Vienna. 

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Former West German Chancellor Brandt to go to Moscow for talks with Soviet leaders. 


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May 18

US delegation of governors to begin a 12-day, official visit to the USSR. 


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May 20

Austrian President Kirchschrager to begin a five-day, state visit to Poland. 

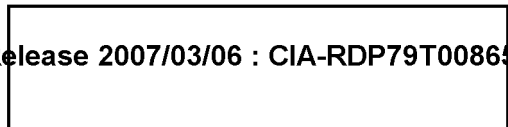
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May 21

Hungarian Foreign Minister Puja to begin a three-day, official visit to West Germany. 

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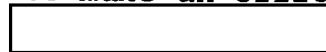
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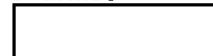
May

FRG Economics Minister Friderichs
to make an official visit to Bulgaria.



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Polish Premier Jaroszewicz to make
an official visit to Italy.



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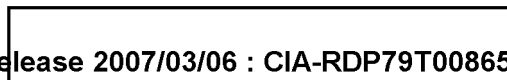
French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues
to make an official visit to Yugo-
slavia.



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